

**A nomenclatural note on *Struthanthus acuminatus* (Loranthaceae)**

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**ABSTRACT**

A new combination is presented: *Struthanthus acuminatus* (Ruiz & Pavon) Kuijt and the synonymy reviewed. Published on-line [www.phytologia.org](http://www.phytologia.org) *Phytologia* 98(2): 118 (Apr 4, 2016). ISSN 030319430.

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One of the earliest recorded species of South American Loranthaceae was a plant characterized by strikingly acuminate leaves, appropriately called *Loranthus acuminatus* Ruiz & Pavon (1802). It was subsequently listed under *Loranthus* section *Struthanthus* by Blume (1830), and has regularly appeared in the botanical literature as *Struthanthus acuminatus* (Ruiz & Pavon) Blume as, for example, in Abbiatti's (1946) treatment of the mistletoes of Argentina. However, Blume did not actually make this combination, but simply listed the species epithet under *Loranthus* section *Struthanthus* (Several other, parallel taxa are stated to be sections as well). The fact that he continued to think of this (and many other) species as *Loranthus* is also clear from his inclusion of "Lor." preceding the list of epithets including "*acuminatus*". To clarify Blume's taxon, the following *comb. nov.* is presented along with full synonymy:

**STRUTHANTHUS ACUMINATUS** (Ruiz & Pavon) Kuijt, *comb. nov.*

**Basionym:** *Loranthus acuminatus* Ruiz & Pavon, Fl. Peruv. Chil. 3: 49. 1802.

Synonyms: *Notanthera acuminatus* (Ruiz & Pavon) G. Don, Gen. Syst. 3: 429. 1843.

*Loranthus cubeoides* Rusby, Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 27: 135. 1900.

*Struthanthus divaricatus* Rusby, Descr. S. Amer. Pl. 12--13. 1920, *syn. nov.*

I am herewith adding *S. divaricatus* as a new synonym after inspecting images of its holotype, *Buchtien 3158* (NY) and two isotypes (US). The characteristic leaf morphology and elongate, open racemes of pedunculate triads correspond closely to the holotype of *Loranthus acuminatus* as preserved in Madrid (See Abbiatti 1946, Pl. XIII). The Buchtien gathering was collected in a locality called Contana, at 2450 m, which I have not been able to locate. I would suggest the locality may be in or near Prov. Tarija in southern Bolivia, for the known Argentinian localities of the species listed in Abbiatti are from Prov. Salta, adjacent to Prov. Tarija.

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**LITERATURE CITED**

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 Blume, K. L. 1830. In Schultes, J. A., & J. H., Systema Vegetabilium 7: 1731. Stuttgart.  
 Ruiz, H., & J. A. Pavon. 1802. Fl. Peruviana, et Chilensis 3: 39.